GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:644
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
INTERNATIONAL PUPPETRY DAY
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had held any puppet shows for the children on the occasion of the International Puppetry Day;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount incurred; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the awareness about the puppet shows among kids?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a)to(c): The Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA), an autonomous organization of Ministry of Culture organized festival and exhibition titled "Putul Yatra" on the occasion of International Puppetry Day in Mumbai from 20-27 March 2005.The festival and exhibition showcased various traditions of Indian Puppetry which was witnessed by children in large numbers.As many as 10 performances were presented by traditional puppeteers from all over the country and an expenditure of Rs.19.20 lakhs was incurred.The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), an autonomous organization of Ministry of Culture also organized training workshops on the theme of role of puppetry in education at various places since January 2007 in which teachers from various states and local students participated and an amount of Rs.26 lakhs (approx.) had been incurred on organization of the above programmes.

(d): In order to increase awareness about puppets, monthly performances of puppet shows, training programmes,workshops, exhibitions and demonstrations of puppets are being organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi from time to time providing an opportunity for all including children to learn making of puppets and its manipulation.Puppet theatre is also the part of the children theatre festival and Bharat Rang Mahotsav being organized by National School of Drama every year. In the training workshops being organized by Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) on Puppetry the students and teachers are benefited.The Zonal Cultural Centre also organize puppet shows and workshops on puppet making for children.